

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 130913Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6082

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL UDORN

CINCPAC

DIA WASH DC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, LA

SUBJECT: RETURNEES FROM VIENG SAY SEMINARS

1. THE FEBRUARY 13 ISSUE OF SIENG PASASON, THE PARTY
NEWSPAPER, CARRIED THE FIRST REPORT WE HAVE SEEN OF
PERSONS RETURNING TO VIENTIANE FROM EXTENDED SEMINARS
AT VIENG SAY. THE ARTICLE STATES THAT EIGHT OFFICIALS
WHO HAD BEEN IN VIENG SAY "SINCE LATE LAST YEAR"
ARRIVED IN VIENTIANE ON FEBRUARY 6, AND IDENTIFIES
SEVEN OF THEM: A) PHANTHOULA AMALATHITHADA, FORMER
MAYOR OF SAVANNAKHET, B) BOUN OUM PHOMMALA, FORMER
CHIEF OF CUSTOMS AT SAVANNAKHET, C) VONG SENGPHAKET,
FORMER DISTRICT CHIEF OF MUONG SALAPHOUM, SAVANNAKHET,
D) DONG VILATHAM, FORMER CHIEF OF THE ECONOMIC SERVICE
AT SAVANNAKHET, E) PHOUVIENG SOUMPHONPHAKDI, FORMER
CHIEF OF MEDICAL SERVICES AT SAVANNAKHET, F) BOUNTHEUNG
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SITHIPHONE, FORMER DEPUTY GOVERNMENT OF SAVANNAKHET

PROVINCE, AND G) VANETHONG THOLAVONGSA, FORMER VETERINARY INSPECTOR FOR CENTRAL AND SOUTH LAOS.

2. THE BALANCE OF THE ARTICLE IS AN INTERVIEW WITH PHANTHOLA REGARDING HIS SEMINAR EXPERIENCE IN WHICH HE GIVES ALL THE RIGHT ANSWERS.

3. LAO NATIONAL RADIO ON FEBRUARY 12 BROADCAST AN INTERVIEW WITH BOUNTHEUNG, WHOSE VOICE PAO RECOGNIZED. BOUNTHEUNG ALSO SPOKE HIGHLY OF HIS VIENG SAY EXPERIENCE.

4. COMMENT: IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THIS PUBLICITY ACCORDED TO THE SAVANNAKHET RETURNEES IS DESIGNED TO REASSURE THOSE WHOSE RELATIVES ARE STILL ATTENDING EXTENDED OUT-OF-TOWN SEMINARS, SOME OF THEM FOR MORE THAN SIX MONTHS NOW, AND OTHERS WHO FEAR THAT THEY MAY YET HAVE TO ATTEND.
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